



## **120<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY BRIGADE, FIRST ARMY DIVISION WEST**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
NORTH FORT HOOD, TEXAS  
[MARVIN.J.BAKER@US.ARMY.MIL](mailto:MARVIN.J.BAKER@US.ARMY.MIL)  
254-630-6613



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 12, 2009**

**Story by Sgt. Dominic Moes, 120<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Public Affairs**

### **Gatesville Jr. Ambassadors Visit Fort Hood**

**North Fort Hood, Texas**--The Gatesville Jr. Ambassadors, a program designed to teach high school students leadership and make them more aware of their environment, experienced the lifestyle Soldiers have on the “Great Place” during a unique trip led by Soldiers from North Fort Hood July 30.

The group visited the 1st Cavalry Division’s Horse Cavalry Detachment stables, Fort Hood’s new Resiliency Campus, and its mobilization training center with the 120<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade.

According to the group, the highlight of the trip was getting a first-hand experience of the Resiliency Campus.

The campus is the center of Fort Hood’s effort to maintain its Soldiers and Families mental, spiritual, and physical health. In one location Soldiers and their family members can talk to counselors from several different fields, meditate in a quiet area, and get a work-out at the wellness center. The campus allows Soldiers to develop a comprehensive fitness program for themselves and their family members in order to lessen the effects of stressors associated with a Soldier’s life.

Chase Cole, a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Gatesville High School whose grandfather was a Soldier and dad an Airman said, "I liked the new center on base. I've been coming to the base for a long time and didn't know it had such cool things available for Soldiers."

Chase and his group are among the first youth to tour the center coming two days after Army Chief of Staff Gen George W. Casey Jr. visited the post July 28.

Resiliency Campus team leader and tour guide Sgt Brian Cheeseman explained how the Army Center for Enhanced Performance uses simulators and emotional feedback machines to help Soldiers who might be struggling with emotional issues. The simulators run real-life Soldier events while counselors stand nearby to measure physical and emotional signs afterward.

"The campus builds a better and stronger Army with the end goal of making teams within the family," Cheeseman added.

The group concluded their tour with a visit to the mobilization training facilities on North Fort Hood. The Jr. Ambassadors were able to see some of the vehicles and weapons Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers use for combat training before they deploy overseas.

Suzie Gunnels, executive director for the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, said, "I am very impressed with how advanced the training is and that the Army places so much concern and importance on Soldiers and their families."

The center's grand opening is scheduled for mid-September. The services are free for all Soldiers, family member and Army employees.

Photos by Capt. Marvin J. Baker, 120th Infantry Brigade Public Affairs Officer

**090730-A-2006B-166:** A group of Gatesville High School students with the Jr. Ambassadors' Club watch and play interactive games at Fort Hood's Resiliency Center and the North Fort Hood mobilization training center July 30 to learn about Soldier life.

**090730-A-2006B-121:** (Left) Samantha Campos and (Right) Jordan Krumnow fire weapons during a simulation at the Army Center for Enhanced Performance on Fort Hood, Texas July 30. They visited the post's Resiliency Center to learn about Soldier's experiences.

**-end-**